

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An exhaust gas purifying apparatus for an internal combustion engine is provided for switching a switching valve at an optimal timing in accordance with an actual activated state of a catalyzer and a heated state of an adsorbent to achieve an optimal exhaust gas characteristic. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus comprises a catalyzer disposed in an exhaust system of the internal combustion engine, an adsorbent filled in a second passage circumventing a first passage in the exhaust system for adsorbing hydrocarbons within exhaust gases, a switching valve operable to switch between an open position for opening the first passage and a close position for closing the first passage, an ECU for detecting an atmospheric pressure state, and a switching valve driver for driving the switching valve to the close position upon start of the internal combustion engine, and driving the switching valve to the open position in accordance with the detected atmospheric pressure state.